  &ndash;  B0 represents the germ count obtained in the control incubation without

active substances;

  &ndash;  EW represents the germ count obtained upon 16 hours of incubation of

*E. coli* in 3 g/l tryptic soy broth in the presence of the peptides in a

concentration of 200 µg/ml;

  &ndash;  E0 represents the germ count obtained in the control incubation without

active substances; and

  -  isolation of the peptides contained in this fraction.

17. A method of using the peptide of claim 13 comprising orally administering the peptide to an individual to selectively promote growth of bifidobacteria, or selectively inhibit the growth of non-bifidobacteria, in the digestive tract.

## REMARKS

The specification is amended, hereby, in order to insert sequence identifiers. The requisite marked up version is attached, hereto.

Claim 13-17 replace claims 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12, respectively, in order to insert sequence identifiers (claim 14) and to, otherwise, address the issues raised in the Office Action.

Applicants request reconsideration of all the rejections and objections of record in view of the instant amendments to the specification and claims. It is submitted that all the rejections and objections of record are overcome by the instant amendment.
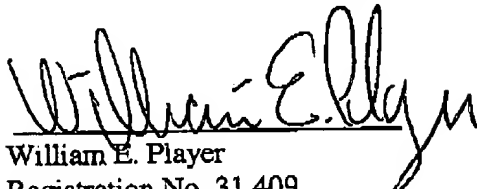
-6-

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By _____
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Atty. Docket No.: P65141US0
Date: March 24, 2003
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-7-

*Marked up version of amendments to the specification*

<u>IN THE SPECIFICATION</u>

*Rewrite page 3 (amended), lines 6-last line, as:*

Preferably, peptides are used which have the following amino acid equences:

$R_1$-EQLLRLKK-$R_3$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 1)</u>, $R_1$-YLEQLLRLKKY-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 2)</u>,

$R_1$-NRQRNILR-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 3)</u>, $R_1$-YMNGMNRQRNILR-R <u>(SEQ ID NO: 4)</u>,

$R_1$-FQWQRNMRK-$R_3$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 5)</u>, $R_1$-HTGLRRTA-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 6)</u>,

$R_1$-FTAIQNLRK-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 7)</u>, $R_1$-EVAARARVVW-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 8)</u>,

$R_1$-WQRNMRKV-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 9)</u>, $R_1$-LARTLKRLK-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 10)</u>,

$R_1$-YKQKVEKV-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 11)</u>, $R_1$-LVRYTKKV-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 12)</u>,

$R_1$-KYLYEIARR-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 13)</u>, $R_1$-ARRARVVWCAVG-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 14)</u>,

$R_1$-ARRARVVWCAVGE-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 16)</u>,        $R_3$-CIAL-$R_4$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 15)</u>

            $R_3$-CIAL-$R_4$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 15)</u>

$R_1$-YQRRPAIAINNPYVPRTYYANPAVVRPHAQIPQRQYLPNSHPPTVVRRPNLHPSF-$R_2$, <u>(SEQ ID NO: 17)</u>

$R_1$-GRRRRSVQWCTVSQPEATKFQWQRNMRRVRGPPVSCIKRDSPIQCIQA-$R_2$

<u>(SEQ ID NO: 18)</u>,

$R_1$-GRRRSVQWCAVSQPEATKCFQWQRNMRKVRGPPVSCIKRDSPIQCIQA-$R_2$,

<u>(SEQ ID NO: 19)</u>,

$R_1$-GRRRRSVQWCAVSQPEATKCFQWQRNMRKVRGPPVSCIKRDSPIQCIQA-R,

<u>(SEQ ID NO: 20)</u>,

$R_1$-VYQHQKAMPKPWIQPKTKVIPYVRYL-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 21)</u>,
$R_1$-ARRARVVWAAVG-$R_2$

<u>(SEQ ID NO: 22)</u>,

$R_1$-CAVGGGCIAL-$R_2$ <u>(SEQ ID NO: 23)</u>,

-8-

R₁-RHTRKYWCRQGARGGCITL-R₂  (SEQ ID NO: 24),

wherein

R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ are optionally present.

R₁, R₃ independently represents [NH₂,] an amino acid[,] or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids, and

R₂, R₄ independently represents [COOH,] CONH₂[,] an amino acid, or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids;

and the amided acetylated, sulfated, phosphorylated, glycosylated, oxidixed derivatives or fragments thereof having bifidogenic properties.

-9-